

## Message Text

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73

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 CIEP-01

FAA-00 MCT-01 /081 W

----- 039032

R 121145Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8053

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 10522

MONTREAL FOR USREP ICAO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, PFOR, PINS, PK, IN

SUBJECT: INDIAN AIRLINES HIJACKING

REF: ISLAMABAD 10208

1. IN VERY BRIEF ARTICLE LOST AMID HEAVY PLAY GIVEN  
SAUDI KING KHALID'S VISIT, PAK PRESS REPORTED OVER  
WEEKEND THAT OFFICIAL GOP SPOKESMAN HAD ANNOUNCED THAT  
INTERROGATION OF FIVE HIJACKERS INVOLVED IN  
SEPTEMBER 11 SEIZURE OF IAC PLANE HAD BEEN COMPLETED AND  
HAD STATED THAT THEY WOULD BE TRIED IN A COURT OF LAW FOR  
VIOLATING THE LAWS OF PAKISTAN.

2. CONFIRMING REPORT TO POL COUNSELOR OCTOBER 12, MFA  
DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR SOUTH ASIA HAYAT MEHDI STATED THAT  
STORY HAD BEEN DELIBERATELY UNDERPLAYED IN ORDER TO  
MINIMIZE ANY ADVERSE IMPACT IT MIGHT HAVE HAD ON  
INDO-PAK RELATIONS. HE STATED ON A CONFIDENTIAL BASIS  
THAT HIJACKERS WERE ALL KASHMIRI MUSLIMS. THEY HAD TOLD  
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PAKS THAT IN SEIZING THE PLANE AND DIRECTING IT TO LAHORE

THEY WERE SEEKING TO PUBLICIZE THEIR OPPOSITION TO INDIAN RULE IN KASHMIR AND PM GANDHI'S DESTRUCTION OF INDIAN DEMOCRACY. HE SAID THAT NO DECISION HAD YET BEEN REACHED AS TO WHEN TRIAL WOULD TAKE PLACE OR WHETHER IT WOULD BE OPEN OR CLOSED. MEHDI NOTED INDIANS HAD NOT REQUESTED EXTRADITION OF CULPRITS, AND HE APPEARED TO ASSUME THAT THEY WOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH GOP DECISION TO TRY HIJACKERS IN PAKISTAN.

3. INDIAN DCM TOLD POL COUNSELOR SOON AFTERWARDS THAT INDIAN WERE NOT "PESTERING" PAKS ON CASE AND SAID THAT HE WAS QUITE SURE GOI REPS AT SALAL DAM TALKS IN NEW DELHI (AT WHICH DOSHI WAS ALSO PRESENT) HAD NOT RAISED THE SUBJECT. DOSHI DECLINED TO INDICATE WHAT HI (OR, IF HE KNEW IT, GOI) REACTION TO THE GOP DECISION WAS, BUT DID NOT SEEM CONCERNED BY IT.  
BYROADE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, INVESTIGATIONAS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 12 OCT 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Film Number:** D760384-0018  
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**To:** STATE  
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